

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGRE-00 EB-07 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 CPR-01
SY-05 /062 W
-----009727 301746Z /42

R 301500Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9302

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 9432

PASS USDA/FAS/FCA//AA/US-USSR SECRETARIAT

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAGR, US, UR
SUBJECT: AGATT OFFICE EUROPEAN USSR SUMMER CROP SURVEY

1. ALL THREE LEGS OF THIS AGATT OFFICE TRAVEL WERE REGISTERED WITHOUT PROBLEMS, INCLUDING ODESSA/CHERNOVTSY/KIEV. MINOR HASSLES ENCOUNTERED PER USUAL WITH PLANE RESERVATIONS, E.G., FACT THAT MINERALNYE VODY AND SIMFEROPOL WERE REPORTED NOW ONLY TO BE SERVICED DIRECT OUT OF MOSCOW THROUGH UNNAMED AIRPORT CLOSED TO FOREIGNERS. IT WAS POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, TO FLY TO NEARBY TOWN AND TAKE CONNECTING FLIGHT.

2. FOLLOWING MINOR INCIDENT, WHICH OCCURRED DURING TRIP, REQUIRES REPORTING. ON JUNE 24, WHILE TRICK AND HICKMAN WERE IN WHEAT FIELD PREOCCUPIED WITH YIELD MEASUREMENTS, PERSON(S) UNKNOWN AND UNOBSERVED PILFERED A TECHNICAL AGRICULTURAL REFERENCE AND THE DAY'S FIELD OBSERVATION NOTES FROM LUNCH SITE BESIDE THE VEHICLE. TRICK IS ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THAT THESE PAPERS WERE TAKEN BY KGB PERSONNEL WHO NEARLY ALWAYS OBSERVE AGRICULTURAL TRAVEL IN TWO OR MORE VEHICLES. NO OTHER BELONGINGS OF ANY KIND WERE MISSING, AND ONE OF THE COVER CARS WAS
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PARKED AT THE END OF A LONG TREE LINE WHICH WAS PROBABLY USED TO SCREEN THIS ACTION.

3. FYI, GOSM OFFICIALS IN MOSCOW ARE KEPT FULLY INFORMED BY AGATT OFFICE OF CROP SURVEY OBJECTIVES WHICH ARE CONSIDERED BY EMBASSY TO FALL UNDER US-USSR AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT. MIN. AG. AND FOREIGN

TRADE ALSO ARE RELIGIOUSLY NOTIFIED OF CROP SURVEY RESULTS. THEREFORE, NO ATTEMPT IS MADE TO SECURE WORKING PAPERS OR OTHER DOCUMENTS DURING SUCH TRAVEL.

4. AFTER OBTAINING EMBOFF CLEARANCE, TRICK REPORTED THE INCIDENT TO ZAPOROZHE MILITIA, USING INTOURIST CHANNEL. HE INDICATED HE WOULD BE GLAD TO ENTERTAIN VISIT FROM LOCAL POLICE. HE EXPLAINED NATURE OF TRAVEL; FULL KNOWLEDGE OF ALL INVOLVED MOSCOW MINISTRIES AND COOPERATION IN SHARING FINDINGS; LICENSE NUMBERS (PROBABLY CORRECT) OF TWO OF CARS FOLLOWING TRICK AND HICKMAN; STRONG DESIRE TO HAVE MISSING DOCUMENTS RETURNED.

5. ACTION: UNLESS INVOLVED WASHINGTON DEPARTMENTS OBJECT, EMBASSY WILL LODGE LOW-LEVEL PROTEST WITH MFA ON INCIDENT. CROP TRAVEL IS OF SUCH VITAL IMPORTANCE TO US AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS THAT IT IS CONSIDERED BEST TO HANDLE IT ROUTINELY.

6. COMMENT: THIS WAS PROBABLY A CASE OF AN OVER-ZEALOUS OBLAST-LEVEL KGB OFFICIAL. POINT AT WHICH THIS OCCURRED IS NOT MORE THAN 50 KM FROM NOVO-MOSKOVSK, WHERE NAIVE, FUMBLING, COMIC SET-UP ATTEMPT WAS MADE IN SPRING OF 1975 ON AGATT AND WIFE FOR "MOLESTING A PIG AND KILLING A ROOSTER,"
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, REPORTS, SURVEYS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 30-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AGATT OFFICE EUROPEAN USSR SUMMER CROP SURVEY
TAGS: EAGR, US, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
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